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servation of Force," "On Iron," "The Chemistry of the Gases," "On Dr. Medlock's Process of Filtering and Purifying Water," "The Gyroscope and Rotary Motion," "Note on Strychnine," "Chemistry in its Relation to the other Sciences," "Suggestions for a New System of Chemical Nomenclature," "Gaseous Exhalations and Miasmata as Causes of Nuisance and Disease," "Progressive Changes of Form in Rotating Spheroids," "High Tides and Colliery Explosions," "A Law of Elliptic Motion," &c.

Mr. Hamilton had the satisfaction, in the closing years of his life, of witnessing the adoption, in modified form, by the Liverpool Council of Education and the Liverpool School Board, of that system of scientific education which he had at the beginning of his career as a teacher regarded as a necessary part of primary instruction; and in the department of higher education his later years were cheered by the establishment of University College, Liverpool.

From his earliest years Mr. Hamilton had advanced views on education, but he was no theorist. In the face of opposition and many difficulties, he practised what he believed. Others have now entered into his labours, and the cause is making rapid progress. Mr. Hamilton's courteous manners, his devotion to duty, and his high intellectual attainments won for him the affection and esteem of all who knew him.

He was elected a Fellow of this Society January 12, 1855.

Robert James Mann was born in Norwich in January 1817. At an early age he evinced a great love of, and aptitude for, physical science. Botany was his first pursuit, and, while still a student, he published an excellent list of the flowering plants of the Norfolk district.

He was educated for the medical profession, and studied at University College. He took the M.R.C.S. and L.S.A. degrees in 1840, and for some years practised in Norfolk, continuing his scientific pursuits, and beginning to occupy himself with literary undertakings also. It was during this time that he published his first book, "The Planetary and Stellar Universe."

In 1853 domestic circumstances, connected with health, caused him partially to abandon the practice of his profession. In 1854 he became an M.D. of St. Andrews, and about this time was employed in assisting his old teacher and attached friend, Dr. C. J. B. Williams, in the revision and publication of his "Principles of Medicine," assistance, the value of which was generously acknowledged in the work itself, and again in the much more recently published "Memorials of Life and Work" of that eminent physician.

In 1857, on the invitation of Bishop Colenso, Dr. Mann left England for Natal, where he resided nine years, during seven of which he was Superintendent of Education for that colony; an office established by the then Governor, Mr. (now Sir John)

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Scott, to which he received the first appointment. In this capacity he succeeded, working against great difficulties, in starting elementary schools for both the English and Dutch inhabitants, and ultimately in assisting those for the native population also. This, no doubt, is a noteworthy achievement in his life, and its value and the way in which it was accomplished have, since his death, been borne testimony to in the *Natal Mercury* of September 14 of last year, in the following words:—"For several years he gave up his time most unsparingly to a task which to him was a labour of love, and the measure of his personal success may be gauged by the extent to which his work suffered when his own part in it was withdrawn."

From his first arrival in Natal he also carried out day by day and recorded meteorological observations, the tabulated results of which are in the hands of the Meteorological Office. After his return to England he twice served as President of the Meteorological Society. While still in Natal he was, besides, the referee of the whole colony on all matters connected with science.

In 1862 he was the chief organiser of the exhibits the colony contributed to the great exhibition of that year, and he arranged and carried out a preliminary exhibition in Durban.

He returned from Natal in 1866, in consequence of receiving a special appointment from the Legislative Council to inaugurate a scheme of Government emigration to the colony. This he held for four years, during which, besides undertaking all the arduous work of his official position, he took charge of the arrangements of the Natal exhibits in the Paris Exhibition of 1867. He laboured gratuitously in promoting emigration to Natal for two years after his appointment as agent was withdrawn.

From about that time he ceased to have any special connection with the colony, and for the rest of his life devoted himself to the scientific and literary pursuits which had ever been congenial and delightful to him.

Of all the sciences which early engaged his attention and became subjects of study none excited so profound an interest or kept so permanent a hold upon his regard as that of astronomy. All through his life it was the one which he would have desired, had circumstances permitted, to make his chief pursuit and occupation. His first work was entitled "The Planetary and Stellar Universe." He was prompted to write it solely by his own profound sense and fervid appreciation of the grandeur and beauty of the subject of which it treated. This was followed, in 1850, by a smaller work on "The Achievements of Sidereal Astronomy in the middle of the Nineteenth Century." Later on he published "A Guide to Astronomical Science." He also furnished to *Chambers's Repository* a "History of the Moon."

Dr. Mann was for many years on the staff of the *Edinburgh Review*, and the admirable articles which he contributed to it on astronomical subjects are well known. His last piece of literary

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work, indeed, was an article on "The Recent Progress of Astronomy," which appeared in the number for April of last year.

He was a popular and prolific writer, and was a frequent contributor to several magazines and reviews. The protection of buildings from lightning was a subject on which he wrote a good deal, and for which he did much valuable work.

In 1874 he was appointed Secretary to the African Section of the Society of Arts; a post he only resigned in consequence of failing health at the completion of the last session of the society.

For four years he served as one of the Board of Visitors of the Royal Institution, of which he became a member in 1876, subsequently being elected on the Council.

In 1878 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons. Dr. Mann was well known in scientific circles, and for many years he was a member of the Astronomical, Meteorological, Geographical, and Photographic Societies.

From first to last he was a most active and indefatigable worker, and his end was probably hastened by his being, during the last four months of his life, when already in failing health, busily engaged in preparing and bringing out the catalogue of the Natal Court at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition. He was at the Natal Court engaged in this last work only three days before being suddenly struck down by paralysis, which terminated fatally two days afterwards, on August 4. He was buried at Kensal Green Cemetery.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society March 9, 1855.

James Pearson, M.A., vicar of Fleetwood, was born at Preston, Lancashire, and received his education there, up to the period of becoming an undergraduate of Cambridge University, first with Mr. Abbott, a highly reputed private schoolmaster of fifty years since, and afterwards at the Grammar School, chiefly under the mastership of the Rev. G. Nun Smith, an excellent teacher and proficient scholar. Here the foundation was laid for the distinguished college honours afterwards gained by the pupil. Whilst at the grammar school he took the second place for several years, and finally was bracketed as equal with the first, the two entering together upon their university career. Mr. Pearson came out as a first class in the examinations of his year at Trinity College, was subsequently rewarded with a scholarship, and graduated in the high position of fifteenth wrangler in 1848. After two years of further residence he accepted the curacy of the rural parish of Scarisbrick, near Ormskirk, a position, it may well be allowed, not very congenial to a man of his antecedents and abilities, and he resigned it to accept the dual appointment of rector of St. Edmund's and mathematical master of the King Edward the Sixth Grammar School at Norwich. After retaining this for about four years he was chosen one of the mathematical professors in the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. Either a longing to live near the